

Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund Advisory Board Meeting

April 24<sup>th</sup> 2009

Location: Maine Health Access Foundation

150 Capital Street. Suite 4 Augusta, Maine 04330

*Present:* Eric Frohberg, Joe Robinson, Andy Smith, Carol Cifrino, Peter Doran, Maureen Brown, Barbara Leonard, Gail Lombardi

*Absent:* Meredith Tipton, Syd Sewall, MaryAnn Amrich

Administrative Support: Cindy Flick *Absent*

**Evaluation Updates (CGR)**

Presented by Joseph Robinson

Maria Ayoob & Sarah Abrams from the Center for Governmental Research came for 2 ½ days of interviews. They first met with the LPPF Steering Committee for an overview of the LPPF. They then held a series of interviews with the lead program staff, the EPI people, and then DEP (Carol Cifrino).

CGR then traveled to several Community Grant sites and interviewed High Density and District Grantees in Lewiston/Auburn, Portland, Sanford, the Western District, and York District.

CGR will be working on the evaluation report for the next few weeks. The first draft should be back hopefully in May if not June.

The University of New England (Sue Stableford) invited the LPPF to be part of a NIH Challenge Grant funded through stimulus money. Eric and Joe worked with UNE to submit a proposal to do a complete evaluation of the lead dust test initiative from a health-literacy prospective. Awards will not be announced until sometime this summer for a fall start-up.

**COMMUNITY GRANT UPDATES**

Presented by Joseph Robinson

Joe has been working on finalizing the remaining Community Grant contracts. There are six contracts that still need to be signed. Two are in the high density areas (Bangor, Saco/Biddeford). With the gap in LPPF coverage there was some confusion on how to apply for funding and how to use it. Some HMPs received funding and didn't go any

further because they didn't know who to contact. Joe has met with or phoned all of HMP groups, particularly those with no contracts or ones that have not started their projects.

Sue Lee and Joe attended a focus group meeting in Belfast (Waldo/Knox region). Joe also attended Rumford's Lead Focus group and District Health meetings in York & Cumberland Counties. Joe and Eric will attend upcoming events in the Bath/Brunswick Midcoast area.

Another concern of the Grantees is getting the project work done within such a short contract year. This is due to contract delays and late starts. The LPPF will work to extend their contracts and allow Grantees to carry over the requirements of this year into next year's contract with additional requirements. Most of the district work for Year-1 should be accomplished by the end of this fiscal year.

#### Webinars:

The LPPF has set up 3 Webinar trainings for the Community Grantees. About 45 people participated in the first session; a "Lead 101" training. The next two webinars will be on "Lead in the Home" and introducing the new Lead Website and Data Portal. All sessions will be available through the new website.

### **COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

Lead Dust Brochure, Website, New Materials Development

Presented by Eric Frohmberg

#### **Communication Strategies**

Eric gave a presentation on the communication efforts associated with the LPPF. Specifically, the lead mailer/brochure was discussed. An overview of the website revisions was given and then there was considerable discussion about the materials currently under development. Examples were distributed and feedback solicited.

## **LEAD DUST TESTING UPDATE**

Presented by Eric Frohberg

Eric presented an overview of where we are with the lead dust testing initiative. The major point dealt with the distinction between the two testing initiative (that through community contracts in the 5 high density areas and the direct mailing to parents of 1 and 2 year olds).

For the community contract, we discussed the implications and outstanding questions of this initiative, including whether and which landlords will participate, the relationship between this initiative and the Lead Hazard Control Grants, and the role that CLPPP can play in this effort.

For the lead dust testing through the direct mailing, we discussed concerns regarding staffing and response rate, how to proceed with a phased roll out, and finally the relationship between the landlords and tenants when a tenant does a lead dust test in an apartment.

We are going to offer a briefing meeting soon to the Maine Apartment Owners and Managers Association. They have monthly meetings in Augusta. We have done some outreach to them. We have introduced them to things that are on the way.

## **BUDGET**

Joseph Robinson & Andy Smith

The LPPF received a total of \$1.2 million over 2006 & 2007. Revenues from paint fees are expected to be down for 2008. At present they are running at a 15% shortfall. The LPPF has proposed a budget for fiscal years 2010, 11, and 12 adopting a projected revenue average of \$706,335 (down from \$830,982).

The propose budget calls for level funding in most categories Community Grants, Evaluation, Social Marketing, Lead Dust Kits, Mailers and Training. The LPPF is suggesting an increase in staff support through an agreement with the DEP

With the roll-out of the home LDT kit program and the new EPA Renovation, Repair & Painting rule, the Lead Program & DEP can expect an increase volume in informational

calls. There will be a need for more staff and resources once people start calling in with questions from the lead dust kits. In addition there will be need for more training for people (contractor, Landlord, homeowners, etc.).

DEP has an open job slot that could be filled by a person assigned to receive and follow-up on calls related to LPPF program activities (i.e. LDT kit programs). LPPF would fund most of the position with partial support from DEP. Under the current proposed budget with projected revenues and expenses, the LPPF could support this position through 2012.

The LPPF Advisory Board voted to approve the budget as presented.

### **NEXT STEPS**

June 26<sup>th</sup> 2009 MeHAF Building  
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**Agenda for next meeting:**

- Possible communications with Landlords
- More updates on Community Grants
- Dust Kits
- Website should be up by then
- Take summer off and reconvene in September.